

## Message Text

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43

ACTION ITFE-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 VO-03 SCA-01 CIAE-00 INSE-00

DODE-00 SY-05 SSO-00 DHA-02 ORM-01 /020 W

----- 111019

O 031235Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2259

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 20967

FOR IATF, MR ANTIPPAS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, VN, US

SUBJ: VIETNAMESE REFUGEES ON S.S. OREGON

1. SIX VIETNAMESE PICKED UP BY U.S. FLAG CARRIER, S.S. OREGON AT LATITUDE 10.04N LONGITUDE 110.31E, HAVE BEEN INTERVIEWED BY EMBASSY REFUGEES OFFICERS AND UNHCR REPRESENTATIVE. THEY FLED SAIGON ON MAP-SUPPLIED RIVER PATROL BOAT (PBR 31RP-911) SEPTEMBER 24 AND WERE PICKED UP ADRIFT ON OCTOBER ONE BY S.S. OREGON. THEY ALL CALIMED THAT REASON FOR LEAVING WAS WISH TO "LIVE IN A FREE COUNTRY." ALL SIX APPEAR IN GOOD HEALTH. (WHEN PICKED UP THEY STILL HAD SMALL SUPPLY OF RICE ON THEIR BOAT.) S.S. OREGON CAPTAIN PARRISH HAS PROVIDED EXCELLENT TREATMENT AND THEIR QUARTERS ARE ENTIRELY ACCEPTABLE.

2. NONE APPEAR TO MEET CRITERIA FOR CATEGORY ONE OR TWO AND ALL LEFT AFTER JULY ONE.

3. S.S. OREGON SAILS FROM BANGKOK OCTOBER 6 AT 0200 HOURS ARRIVING IN NEXT PORT OF CALL, SINGAPORE, OCTOBER 8 " IN THE MORNING" WITH NO EXACT ARRIVAL TIME AVAILABLE YET.

4. ALL EXPRESS DESIRE TO RESETTLE IN THE U.S., THREE SPEAK SOME ENGLISH; TWO WERE TRAINED AS ADVANCED UNDERWATER DIVERS (SCUBA AND HELMET), ONE IN CALIFORNIA AND THE OTHER SUBIC BAY AND BOTH WORKED WITH U.S. SEAL TEAMS BUT SALARIES PAID BY  
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VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT. NONE HAS RANK HIGHER THAN CHIEF PETTER

OFFICER. THE GIRL PRESENTED NOTARIZED STATEMENT FROM AMERICAN SPONSOR IN CONNECTION WITH F-1 STUDENT VISA APPLICATION BUT NO VISA ISSUED. VISA FALCONS FOLLOW. PLEASE ADVISE NOT LATER THAN 0800 OCTOBER 4 BANGKOK TIME SO THAT EMBASSY CAN ADVISE SHIP AND ATTEMPT CONTACT THAI IMMIGRATION IF NECESSARY.

5. IN CONSIDERING THEIR APPEAL FOR RESETTLEMENT DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO REFER TO STATE 197782 WHICH STATES IN PART " OUR POLICY IS TO ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR PERSONS WHO ARE PICKED UP BY AMERICAN FLAG VESSELS ON INTERNATIONAL WATERS." EMBASSY ALSO WISHED POINT OUT THAT VIETNAMESE FLED ON MAP-SUPPLIED VESSEL WHICH WAS SUED AS ONE OF CONDITIONS FOR ACCEPTANCE OF REFUGEES AT TIME OF MASS EVACUATIONS IN APRIL AND MAY.  
MASTERS

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## Message Attributes

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